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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **HIWATA, Akira, et al.**

Group Art Unit: 3744

Serial No.: 10/655,020

Examiner: F. ZEC

Filed: September 5, 2003

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 6047

For. **REFRIGERATION CYCLE APPARATUS**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND
STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 4, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry in the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

The undersigned hereby certifies

XX that each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/655,020
Information Disclosure Statement

instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP


William L. Brooks

Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 34,129

WLB/mla
Atty. Docket No. **031052**
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO 1449
References
Copy of European Patent Office Communication w/ Search Report

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449	Atty. Docket No. 031052	Serial No. 10/655,020
	Applicant(s): HIWATA, Akira, et al.	
	Filing Date: September 5, 2003	Group Art Unit: 3744

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
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AF	0 672 877	09/20/1995	Europe	Yes
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AH	02/18848	03/07/2002	PCT	Yes
AI	59-69661	04/19/1984	Japan	No
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AK	2002-022298	01/23/2002	Japan	Abstract
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AS	Copy of European Patent Office Communication including European Search Report for corresponding European Patent Application No. 03019272 dated May 14, 2004.
Examiner	Date Considered

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449	Atty. Docket No. 031052	Serial No. 10/655,020
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Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
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_____	BB					
_____	BC					

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Examiner	Date Considered
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